

Advancing Fundamental Values in the EHEA: Updates from the BFUG Board meeting in Oslo Updates on the NewFAV2 project

25th of February 2026

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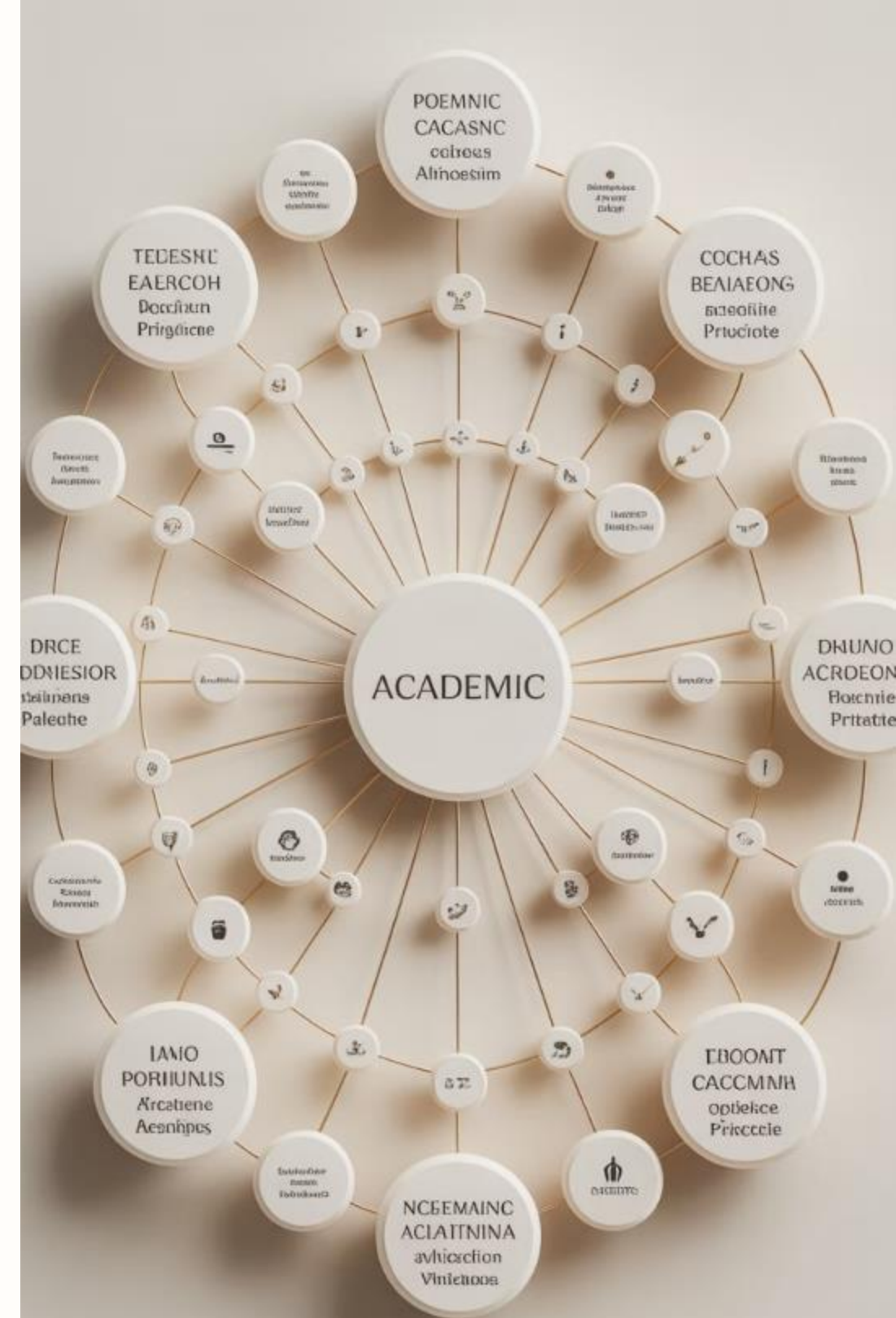
BFUG Board - 05.02.2026

- Presentation of the status on the monitoring process (further explained)
 - NO selection
 - Training sessions
 - Timelines
 - Promotion track – fundamentalvalues.info presentation
- Questions and clarification provided
 - The public consultation phase will be carried out through the fundamentalvalues.info website and linked on the EHEA website. BFUG Members will be asked to promote this at the national level. Separate promotion of this consultation will be done within the project
 - There will be **no national report** will be implemented;
 - The proposed methodology is the best approach identified and approved in the previous mandate
 - The **report will be published** as part of the project but the BFUG can endorse it.
- Separate discussions with representatives of countries that have not confirmed NOs



Dedicated website for promoting Fundamental Values

- Project website: fundamentalvalues.info
- Core features:
 - Descriptions of the six fundamental values
 - Resources (with different type of content), including:
 - open educational resources (OER) generated by the NewFAV team
 - Reports, studies and research articles
 - Content / functionalities that will be further developed / piloted:
 - AI chatboot
 - Videos
 - Blog articles
- Target: Academic community, including educators, students, and administrators



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Advance your understanding of Fundamental Values in Higher Education

Build skills with our comprehensive resources and monitoring tools for implementing fundamental values across the European Higher Education Area

Search values, resources, or events...

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✓ [Policy Documents](#)

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Fundamental Values

↑ Growing network

EHEA countries and the European Commission.

Implementing fundamental values

The fundamental values of the EHEA

Essential pillars for the European Higher Education Area

[Explore all values →](#)

Academic freedom

freedom of academic staff and students to engage in research, teaching, learning and communication in and with society without interference nor fear of reprisal

[Read more](#)

Academic integrity

a set of behaviours and attitudes in the academic community internalising and furthering compliance with ethical and professional principles and standards in learning, teaching, research, governance, outreach, and any other tasks related to the missions of higher education.

[Read more](#)

Institutional autonomy

the will and ability of higher education institutions to fulfil their missions without undue interference and to set and implement their own priorities and policies concerning organisation, finance, staffing and academic affairs

[Read more](#)

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Understanding academic freedom (AF)

Academic freedom is a foundational concept necessary for quality higher education and a vital element of democracy. It is considered a distinct, fundamental democratic right, rooted universally in the pursuit of knowledge and truth.

Academic freedom denotes the freedom of the academic community - including academic staff and students - in respect of research, teaching and learning and, more broadly, the dissemination of research and teaching outcomes both within and outside the higher education sector. In essence the concept ensures that the academic community may engage in research, teaching, learning and communication in society without fear of reprisal.

What does academic freedom protect?



Freedom of research

This includes the right to determine what shall (or shall not) be researched, how it shall be researched, and the methods and avenues through which the findings will be disseminated.



Freedom of teaching

Academic staff must have the liberty to define the curriculum and teaching methods, an exercise that includes strong public and social responsibility.



Freedom of learning

This value is closely linked to equitable access to higher education

Each of these freedoms entails the overarching freedom **to think, to question, and to share ideas**, both inside and outside the higher education sector. This protection applies to the dissemination of research and teaching outcomes both within and outside the higher education sector.

Resources Library

Comprehensive materials for implementing and monitoring fundamental values

Search resources by title...



Search

All resources

Fundamental values

Resource type

Coverage

Issuer

Publish Year

Rome Communiqué

PUBLISH YEAR

2020

See resource

FUNDAMENTAL VALUES

Academic freedom

TYPE

Policy document

COVERAGE

Ministerial statement on academic freedom

PUBLISH YEAR

2020

See resource

FUNDAMENTAL VALUES

Academic freedom

TYPE

Policy document

COVERAGE

European Strategy for Universities

PUBLISH YEAR

2022

Download file

FUNDAMENTAL VALUES

Academic freedom

Academic integrity

Student and staff participation

Public responsibility for HE

Q&A / Next Steps

Open for questions!

Thank you!

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